

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A system for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:
3 an interface to interoperate with a network service component via a
4 network service on a service host system;
5 a basic communication framework established with [[a]] the service host
6 ~~system executing a network service software component to provide a network~~
7 ~~service;~~ system;
8 a checking mechanism to remotely determine availability of the network
9 service software component on the service host system and to verify prerequisites
10 against a runtime environment through the service host system;
11 a helper mechanism to execute a code bundle providing the network
12 service software component through the service host ~~system~~ system, wherein the
13 code bundle is logically grouped with installation instructions for the network
14 service software component; [[and]]
15 a viral mechanism to provide functionality equivalent to the network
16 service independent of the service host system and implement the network service
17 software component in the code ~~bundle to offer functionality equivalent to the~~
18 ~~network service provided by the service host system-~~ bundle.
- 1 2. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:
3 a set of standardized method definitions provided through a public
4 interface defined on the network service software component.
- 1 3. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 2, wherein the
2 standardized method definitions are selected from the group comprising at least

3 one of an availability method, environment verification method, code retrieval
4 method, and an update method.

1 4. (original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the network
2 service software component is updated through the service host system.

1 5. (original) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
2 an installation predicate object defined on the service host system to verify
3 that the runtime environment satisfies prerequisites necessary to install and
4 execute the network service software component.

1 6. (original) A system according to Claim 5, wherein the installation
2 predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution
3 within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 7. (original) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
2 a helper object defined on the service host system to locate and obtain
3 copies of one or more of the network service software components necessary to
4 satisfy one or more of the prerequisites.

1 8. (original) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 9. (original) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
2 an update object defined on the service host system to identify, retrieve
3 and install any updates to the network service software component.

1 10. (original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 11. (canceled).

1 12. (canceled).

1 13. (original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 14. (currently amended) A method for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:
3 interoperating with a network service software component via a network
4 service on a service host system;

5 establishing a basic communication framework with [[a]] the service host
6 system executing a network service software component to provide a network
7 service; system;

8 remotely determining availability of the network service software
9 component on the service host system and verifying prerequisites against a
10 runtime environment through the service host system;

11 executing a code bundle providing the network service software
12 component through the service host ~~system~~ system, wherein the code bundle is
13 logically grouped with installation instructions for the network service software
14 component; [[and]]

15 providing functionality equivalent to the network service independent of
16 the service host system; and

17 implementing the network service software component in the code bundle
18 ~~to offer functionality equivalent to the network service provided by the service~~
19 ~~host system.~~ bundle.

1 15. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 specifying a set of standardized method definitions provided through a
4 public interface defined on the network service software component.

1 16. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, further
2 comprising:

3 defining the standardized method definitions selected from the group
4 comprising at least one of an availability method, environment verification
5 method, code retrieval method, and an update method.

1 17. (original) A method according to Claim 14, further comprising:
2 updating the network service software component through the service host
3 system.

1 18. (original) A method according to Claim 14, further comprising:
2 defining an installation predicate object on the service host system to
3 verify that the runtime environment satisfies prerequisites necessary to install and
4 execute the network service software component.

1 19. (original) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the
2 installation predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for
3 execution within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 20. (original) A method according to Claim 14, further comprising:
2 defining a helper object on the service host system to locate and obtain
3 copies of one or more of the network service software components necessary to
4 satisfy one or more of the prerequisites.

1 21. (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 22. (original) A method according to Claim 14, further comprising:
2 defining an update object on the service host system to identify, retrieve
3 and install any updates to the network service software component.

1 23. (original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 24. (canceled).

1 25. (canceled).

1 26. (original) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 27. (original) A computer-readable storage medium holding code for
2 performing the method according to Claim 14.

1 28. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:

3 means for interoperating with a network service software component via a
4 network service on a service host system;

5 means for establishing a basic communication framework with [[a]] the
6 service host system ~~executing a network service software component to provide a~~
7 network service; system;

8 means for remotely means for determining availability of the network
9 service software component on the service host system and verifying prerequisites
10 against a runtime environment through the service host system;

11 means for executing a code bundle providing the network service software
12 component through the service host system ~~system, wherein the code bundle is~~
13 logically grouped with installation instructions for the network service software
14 component; ~~[[and]]~~

15 means for providing functionality equivalent to the network service
16 independent of the service host system; and

17 means for implementing the network service software component in the
18 code bundle ~~to offer functionality equivalent to the network service provided by~~
19 the service host system. bundle.